

# **Tsunami Mitigation Program Subcommittee Report**

**June 17, 1997**

The Program Subcommittee reviewed State reports of 1997 mitigation activities to date as background for the afternoon discussion of a framework for a Strategic Mitigation Implementation Plan. The Coordinator had developed a matrix to track and compare a number of activities and items that the Program Subcommittee has previously agreed are significant. States found the matrix as a useful tool to highlight their activities and benchmark and share activities from. The Plan Lead submitted a draft implementation plan which the Subcommittee suggested improvements to. The matrix will organize information and allow the Plan to be more easily fleshed out.

## **Needs and Products Matrix:**

The Program Subcommittee reviewed a Draft Matrix for identification, assessment and tracking of State tsunami needs and products (see Attachment A). The matrix is organized currently along one axis by state, and along the other by items and activities. This allows the Subcommittee to easily track who is doing what and to identify gaps and resources. It allows a State to compare its activities with those of other States, to make a better case for developing an activity that its peers think is significant enough to do, and it may be useful to track activities of counties.

- Subcommittee recommended adoption of the matrix approach.
- States are providing organization and additional categories ideas for matrix.
- States are filling in items on the matrix related to their individual State
- Coordinator is filling in items based on State reports provided during the meeting.
- Subcommittee recommends same matrix approach be used by States for counties and regions assessment and tracking.

## **Strategic Implementation Plan:**

The Subcommittee reviewed a Draft Strategic Implementation Plan (see Attachment B) which will be revised according to the following suggestions:

- Include a goal statement or a vision of a tsunami resistant coast.
- Emphasize the all-hazard approach to incorporate bigger, more frequent disasters.
- Emphasize that a local tsunami is not the only problem but is the result of a strong local earthquake which must also be planned for.
- Add a section on tsunami recovery and long term mitigation opportunities not currently available. Recovery ties it to the Flood Insurance Program reconstruction, re-siting

communities (e.g. Valdez in 1964), sudden availability of large funding sources, having projects ready on the shelf, and land use plans. Review relevant documents.

- Add a section on archiving and cataloging of materials, resources and products.
- Find commonalities, be sensitive to diversity of States. What is reality versus wish list?
- Program Subcommittee members will suggest additions and corrections this week.
- The final draft will be available for review next week.
- The emphasis should be on mitigation (reducing risk), not just education.
- Information dissemination needs more fleshing out, Connie has ideas.
- What do we want for cataloging? States are near prioritizing items.
- Development of needs assessment is also constituency building.
- Must move on fast track since next funding year is almost upon us.

### **Other Discussion Items:**

- Inappropriate use of inundation maps arose as a significant topic that needs further discussion. Though intended for evacuation planning, some users intend to do land use planning based on them. The problem of inappropriate use of these maps requires resolution.
- Connie Manson, President of the Association of Geoscience Librarians of North America, provided information on cataloging of materials that the Subcommittee has decided is a significant activity and is willing to be a source of expertise for the Subcommittee.
- Brian Atwater and Jody Bourgeoise presented a project on lessons learned for surviving a tsunami in 1960 in Chile and the Subcommittee discussed how this type of information might be used and in what format such as videos, posters, books, curriculum, etc.

[Attachment A](#)

[Attachment B](#)

[Tsunami Mitigation Workshop](#)